

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAM-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

AID-05 IGA-01 MC-02 ACDA-10 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /091 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS STATE 198166

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, KE, US

SUBJECT: NEWSPAPER STORIES ON U.S. ARMS AID TO KENYA

REF: NAIROBI 7148

1. AUGUST 20 EDITIONS OF WASHINGTON POST AND WASHINGTON
STAR BOTH CARRIED ARTICLE ON U.S. ARMS AID TO KENYA.
HEADLINE POST ARTICLE: "U.S. ARMS TO BE SOLD TO KENYA,"
LEAD SENTENCE: "NAIROBI, AUG. 19 (AP)--KENYA HAS
AGREED TO BUY DOLS. 5 MILLION WORTH OF AMERICAN WARPLANES
AND OTHER ARMS IN A MOVE TO RESTORE A MILITARY BALANCE
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WITH ITS MORE HEAVILY ARMED EAST AFRICAN NEIGHBORS, THE
U.S. EMBASSY SAID TODAY." HEADLINE STAR ARTICLE: "U.S.
READY TO SELL ARMS TO KENYA, INCLUDING BOMBERS," LEAD
SENTENCE: "NAIROBI--THE U.S. HAS AGREED FOR THE FIRST

TIME TO SUPPLY KENYA WITH MILITARY EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING
SUPERSONIC FIGHTER BOMBERS, A U.S. SPOKESMAN SAYS."

2. BOTH ARTICLES (COPIES BEING AIR POUCHED TO POSTS)
STATE THAT ANOTHER DOLS. 1 MILLION CREDIT FOR TRAINING IS
BEING NEGOTIATED, DISCUSS BRITISH MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO
KENYA AND STATE THAT THE SPECIFIC WEAPONS TO BE SUPPLIED
TO KENYA USING THE FMS CREDIT HAVE NOT BEEN DECIDED, BUT
THAT F-5A'S ARE BEING CONSIDERED AND THE U.S. WAS "HOPING
TO PERSUADE IRAN TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO KENYA A FEW OF ITS
F-5A JETS." BOTH ARTICLES CONCLUDE WITH DISCUSSION OF
KENYAN MILITARY - POORLY EQUIPPED - AND DISCUSSION OF
MILITARY OF COUNTRIES SURROUNDING KENYA AND THEIR THREATS
TO KENYA. KISSINGER

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